

ROSE, OR CATHERINE-WHEEL
WINDOWS.

CIRCULAR windows are found in the buildings of the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries in England, France, and Germany. As well as rose, or catherine-wheel windows, they are sometimes called marigold windows; and in French works we have the term *œil des ailes*, *rosa vitrea*, &c. In Normandy, and other parts of France, they are more common than in England; and, in the later examples, present very elaborate tracery, constructed with extraordinary boldness and skill.

A simple circular aperture was the germ from which the rose window grew to be a masonic marvel. One in the west end of St. James's Church, Bristol, and another in the east end of Bursfreston Church (recently restored), are early specimens. The latter is shewn in an interior view of the church, given in our second volume, p. 265.

And those in the west front of the church of St. Ouen, in Rouen, the cathedral at Strasbourg, and the transepts of Westminster Abbey, may be pointed out as examples of its most complete and perfect state.

The annexed engraving, from a careful drawing by Mr. Caveler, represents the exterior of one in the south transept of the latter wonderful building, and is 31 feet 3 inches in diameter.* The upper spandrels, which give it the square form outside, are solid; the vaulting within circumscribing the upper half of the circle. Under it are two rows of windows, occupying the whole width of the transept; and these, together with the rose window, are about to be filled with stained glass by Messrs. Ward and Nixon, which is now nearly ready. The corresponding window in the north transept differs but slightly from this in the tracery, and, as most of our readers know, is glazed with stained glass. Fig. 2 is a section of the moulding on the line, *a-b*, at large, and will serve to illustrate sufficiently the working of the window. It may be ascribed to the latter part of the fourteenth century.

For some notes on the beautiful building of which it forms a portion, in addition to what has recently appeared in our journal (p. 98 and p. 110, *ante*), we refer to an article on the abbey in another part of the present No.

GOTHIC ORNAMENTS
FROM THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF YORK.

In continuation of our series, we present two other examples from this beautiful building.

Fig. 7 shews one of two compartments in the spandrels formed by the arch of the door at the west end of the north aisle, and the cill of the window above it. The door in the opposite aisle has two similarly shaped compartments in the same position, but the sculpture is different in each of them. The panel shewn, represents (at the same time) two passages in the life of Samson. It is about 2 feet square, and is in high relief. The other three are much defaced: they represent various conflicts.

Fig. 8 represents a crocket on the lower part of the pediment of the great west door, with part of the mouldings of the arch. It is 1 foot 8 inches long. The crockets on the upper part of the pediment are different.

* In Rouen Cathedral there are three, 50 feet in diameter. There is a fine example in the west front of Rheims Cathedral. Amongst the earlier specimens in Normandy are those in the *Abbaye aux Hommes*, Caen, and the Ducal palace in the same town.

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Fig. 7.

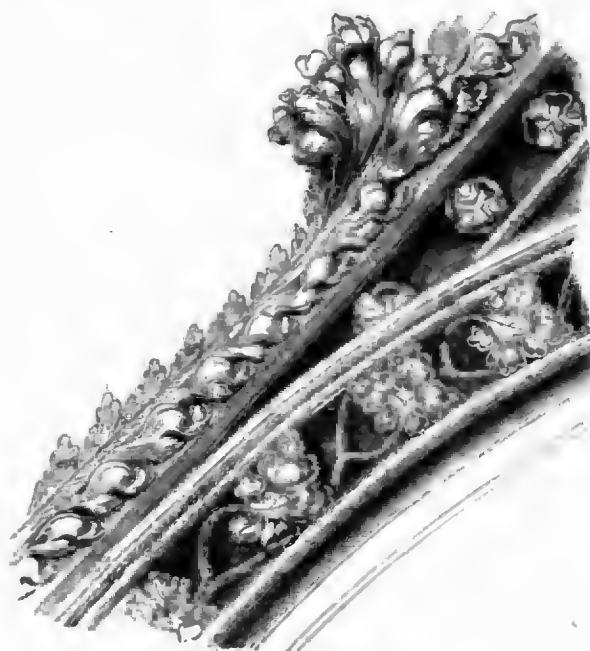


Fig. 8.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

A movement has taken place in this ancient and valuable society which is likely, we think, to have a good result. In a discussion caused by a proposal, that in future no meeting of the society should be suspended in commemoration of the death of King Charles I. (Jan. 30th), it was admitted by members of the council that they scarcely ever met, and that, through neglect, the business of the society had accumulated, and was now in a complicated state. The arrears of subscriptions amounted to more than 2,000*l*. The following suggestions for the future conduct of the society, amongst others, were then

made, and, together with the original proposition, were referred to the council, to be reported on at the anniversary:—

1. That the president of the Society of Antiquaries of London be requested to attend at the next anniversary of the society, and to deliver an address to the members, which may comprehend the names of the members deceased during the past year; the number of new members; the state of the finances; the state of the arrears due to the society; the advance made by antiquarian research and science in Great Britain during the past year, and such information as may be available respecting the progress of science in other